Road Safety Weeks are organised to bring in public awareness in respect of observance of road discipline. Road Safety Week was observed during 6-12th June, 1988 and 3rd to 9th April, 1989.

Amendment to Motor Vehicles Act, 1988

193. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:
DR. ABRAR AHMAD KHAN:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 to provide relief to transport operators; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH THE ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) A Committee has been set up to review the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 in the light of various representations received in this regard. Pending this, no decision to amend the Act has been taken.

Alleged smuggling by Kashmir Government's CID personnel

194. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:
SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:
SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently some persons of Kashmir Government's CID Cell were arrested in Delhi for smuggling of drugs in Government vehicles; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On an information that some dealers of narcotics from J&K visit the J&K Rest House, Rouse Avenue, a trap was laid by Vigilance Branch of Delhi Police in which two Constables of J&K Police Bashrat and Hemraj were arrested with 3 Kg. 300 gm. of charas and the vehicle was impounded. A case FIR No. 21 dated 14-1-90 u/s 20/61/85 NDPS Act, P.S. I. P. Estate was registered. Both of them were sent to judicial custody and were subsequently granted bail by the court.

Training to Bodo militants

195. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any inquiry to know where and how the Bodo militants are receiving training in arms for their subversive activities;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the concentration pockets/camps identified so far;

(c) whether it is a fact that Bodo militants are being trained by some former Army, BSF and S.S.B. personnel; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof stating the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The militants had set up their own training camps particularly in the hilly and forest areas to the North of the river Brahmaputra. Their camps did not have fixed locations.

(c) and (d) No information is available whether former Army, BSF, SSB personnel are tarining the Bodo militants.

Sri Lanka foreign minister's allegation against RAW

196. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the recent statement made by the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister alleging that RAW is planning to assassinate key men in Sri Lankan Government to destabilise it and that some persons have been arrested in connection with the alleged plot by RAW; and

(b) if so, what is the basis on which such an allegation has been made by Sri Lankan Foreign Minister and what is the reaction of the Government of India with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As already clarified in a statement of the official spokesman, on February 16, these allegations are entirely baseless.

Proposal to increase the telecast time of the second channel of Madras

197. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to increase the telecast time of the Second Channel, Madras, so that the T.V. Viewers could get alternative programmes; and

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be increased?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The telecast time of second channel of Doordarshan Kendra, Madras, has already been increased by one hour with effect from 26th January, 1990.

Technology mission on advancement of Tele-Communications in the country

198. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to continue their efforts to implement the Technology Mission on advancement of Tele-Communications in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the achievements of Government in improving Tele-Communications facility specially in backward and tribal areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) The technology mission in the field of telecommunication is called "Mission-Better Communication". It is due to end of 31st March, 1990. However, the main components of the Telecom. Mission are: improvement in quality of service and accessibility to Telecom. facilities. Both these are continuing programmes of the Department of Telecommunications.

(c) Significant achievements have been made in improving the Telecom. facilities, specially in backward and tribal areas, as indicated below:

Sl. No.	Activity	Achievements 1988-89
1.	Telephone exchanges commissioned	580
2.	Exchange capacity added (lines)	1,40,000
3.	New lines provided	1,16,700
4.	Long distance PCOs opened	350
5.	Earth Stations provided	2

Places linked with the National Telephone Network in Orissa

199. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places in Orissa which have been linked with the National Telephone Network so far; and